

## European solar energy industry is meeting at Intersolar 2001 in Freiburg / Germany

The "capital of solar energy" Freiburg will be again the meeting place for the solar industry sector from Germany and Europe. The international trade fair and conference Intersolar 2001 expects mainly professional visitors, who would like to inform themselves on the German and European solar energy products in the field of solar thermal technology, photovoltaics and solar architecture. Intersolar 2001 addresses mainly professional visitors, such as plumbers, retailers from Germany as well as European manufacturers and wholesalers. For this reason, the Intersolar trade fair is also a ideal meeting place for professionals from all over the world, who are interested in modern European solar technology. Not only the most important German manufacturers and wholesalers are represented but also many others solar companies from other European countries.

In Germany, Intersolar is the only trade fair, which concentrates exclusively on solar thermal technology and photovoltaics as well as solar architecture. The figures of the last two years show, how attractive the international solar energy trade fair and conference is for exhibitors and professional visitors. In 1999, 141 exhibitors and 7,800 visitors has been counted. In 2000, the numbers had risen to 200 exhibitors and 11,500 visitors. For Intersolar 2001 240 exhibitors and more than 13,000 visitors are expected. „The proportion of international companies has shown a clear increase from 8% in 1999 to more than 20% in 2000“, emphasise Markus Elsässer, project manager of Intersolar.

„The European solar energy market needs an independent platform, in order to show its products“, states Mr Gerhard Stryi-Hipp, manager of the German Professional Association for Solar Energy (DFS). "We are convinced, that Intersolar will develop to one of the most important European solar trade fair. Germany is the largest solar market in Europe and it has a great dynamics. The growth for solar thermal energy was more than 30%, photovoltaics increased even more than 300% in Germany in the year 2000. Therefore, an European solar energy trade fair is placed well in Germany. Freiburg, which lies at the heart of Europe, provides an appropriate setting for this event. We invite all international active companies, to present themselves at the Intersolar".

The importance of this international trade fair and conference is also emphasised by the sponsorship of national and international European solar energy associations. German solar industry associations, such as the Federal Association of Solar Energy (BSE), the German Professional Association for Solar Energy (DFS) and the German Solar Energy Society (DGS) guarantee a strong market orientation of the trade fair. The international direction of Intersolar is also recorded with the co-operation with the European Solar Industry Federation (ESIF), the International Solar Energy Society (ISES) and the Swiss Professional Association for Solar Energy (SOFAS). Further, the international co-operation should be enlarged in the future.

More information on the international trade fair and conference Intersolar Solar Promotion GmbH, Tel. + 49 - 72 31/ 35 13 80, Fax + 49 - 72 31/ 35 13 81,

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## Background information

The European solar thermal market has increased around 18% every year since 1994. Until 2010, 100 million m<sup>2</sup> of solar thermal collectors are to be installed in Europe, according to the White Paper on "Renewable Energies" of the European Commission. This requires an annual growth of 35%. The most dynamic markets in Europe are Germany and Italy. They exceeded this growth rate in the year 2000. Other countries follow strongly, such as Spain, France, Great Britain and the Benelux countries.

An enormous market demand for photovoltaic systems was produced with the 100,000 Roof Programme and the incentive of 99 Pf/kWh in Germany. In 2000, the PV market has more than tripled from 12 MWp to more than 40 MWp. Other countries, such as Spain, Luxembourg and Kaernten, are planing or will have a similar incentive. A comparable success is expected.

Information and market data on the solar energy market in Germany and Europe is available from:

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